



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
**Florida Crop Progress  
and Condition Report**



Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the UF/IFAS Extension Service  
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[www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

This report contains data collected each week from respondents across the state whose occupations provide them opportunities to discuss agricultural production with farmers in their counties as well as to make visual observations. We thank all who have contributed to this report.

May 1, 2023

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

**General**

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, April 30, 2023. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 7.1 inches at Scottsmoor (Brevard County). The average mean temperature ranged from 66.9°F at Niceville (Okaloosa County) to 83.1°F at Marathon Airport (Monroe County).

**Citrus**

Temperatures remained elevated in the citrus growing region last week, with average highs from the mid 80’s to the low 90’s. The hottest readings were recorded in Sebring (Highlands County) reaching 90 degrees, followed by Clermont (Lake County) reading 89 degrees, and Winter Haven (Polk County) hitting 87 degrees. The citrus belt received widespread rainfall with the passage of a strong cold front during the reporting period. The most rain fell in Kenansville (Osceola County), measuring 3.88 inches of precipitation, followed by Mount Plymouth (Lake County) reading 2.9 inches, and Sebring (Highlands County) registering 2.5 inches. According to the April 27, 2023, U.S. Drought Monitor, severe drought conditions covered the majority of the citrus growing region, while the area of extreme drought on the west coast of the peninsula north of Tampa Bay extended further into the Big Bend region of the state.

Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, fertilizing, spraying herbicides, mowing, topping, hedging, removal of dead trees, and general grove maintenance. Irrigation was being run statewide, while water levels in canals and ditches were very low. Field personnel reported the spring flush of vegetative growth continuing and the fruitlets of next year’s crop growing nicely.

Packinghouses were shipping red grapefruit and late oranges. Processors were handling Valencia orange packinghouse eliminations and field run fruit.

**Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested**

[In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes]

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Apr 9, 2023 (Preliminary)	Apr 16, 2023 (Preliminary)	Apr 23, 2023 (Preliminary)	Apr 24, 2022 (Actual)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Valencia Oranges	1,207	984	877	2,315
Red Grapefruit....	0	1	1	1
White Grapefruit .	1	0	0	4
Tangerines and Tangelos .....	2	0	0	0
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>1,210</b>	<b>985</b>	<b>878</b>	<b>2,320</b>

Source: Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service Fruit and Vegetable Division

**Crops**

Most of the state received varying levels of needed rainfall but the same storms also brought hail particularly in the middle and southern parts of the peninsula. Producers in the southeast of the state noted continued pooling in fields due to heavy precipitation in the past few weeks which has delayed sugarcane harvesting activities and rice planting. As fields continue to dry in the northern part of the state, cotton and peanut producers planned to make a big push on planting in the coming week. Fruit and vegetables that were planted and harvested last week include squash, tomatoes, eggplant, peppers, blueberries, and watermelon. Potato harvest continued with some delay due to wet conditions and hail. Some producers in the southern part of the state noted whiteflies to be an issue on several crops.

**Livestock and Pastures**

Cattle were reported to be in mostly fair to good condition, while pastures were reported to be in mostly poor to fair condition. Rainfall over the past week helped pasture conditions in the middle and southern parts of the state.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending 4/30/23

Crop	Prev year (percent)	Prev week (percent)	This week (percent)	5 Year avg (percent)
Cotton - Planted.....	4	2	5	7
Peanuts - Planted.....	25	19	24	24

### Conditions for Week Ending 4/30/23

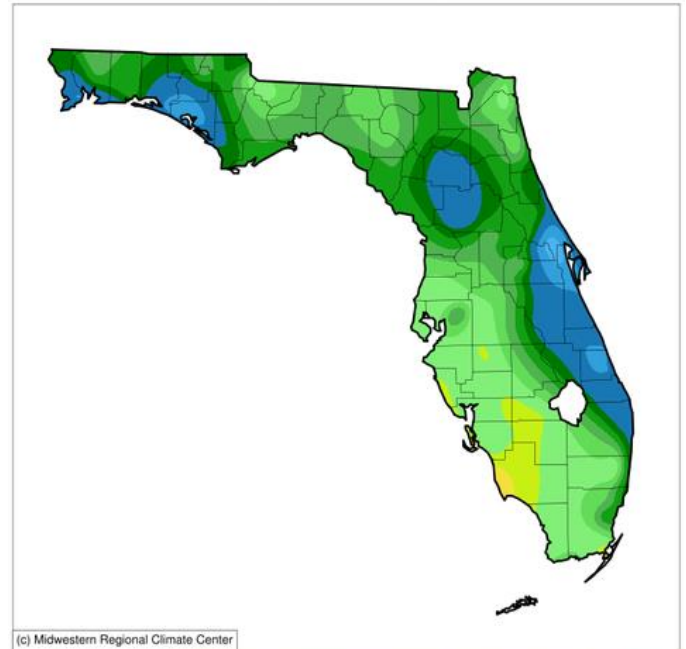
Crop	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Cattle.....	1	5	41	47	6
Pasture & range....	4	32	42	16	6

### Soil Moisture for Week Ending 4/30/23

Topsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very short.....	17	8
Short.....	30	21
Adequate.....	46	60
Surplus.....	7	11

### Accumulated Precipitation (in)

April 24, 2023 to April 30, 2023



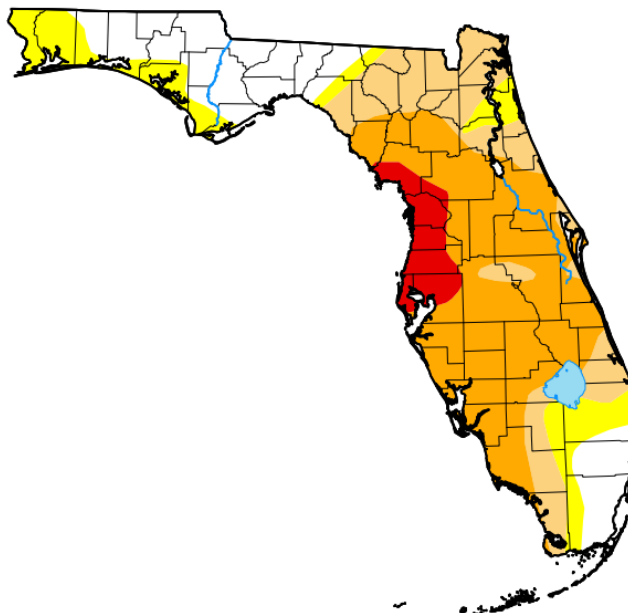
(c) Midwestern Regional Climate Center



0.01 0.1 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 4 5 6 8

<https://mrcc.purdue.edu/CLIMATE/>

## U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



April 25, 2023

(Released Thursday, Apr. 27, 2023)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

#### Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	20.74	79.26	65.34	45.05	5.90	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 04-18-2023	19.01	80.99	67.37	45.77	4.71	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 01-24-2023	60.28	39.72	20.46	9.54	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-03-2023	56.61	43.39	30.80	19.77	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-27-2022	91.16	8.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 04-26-2022	66.34	33.66	24.28	5.16	0.00	0.00

#### Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

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[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)